

PATENT COOPERAT IN TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office **Box PCT** Washington, D.C.20231 **ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE**

Date of mailing (day/month/year) in its capacity as elected Office 06 June 2000 (06.06.00) Applicant's or agent's file reference International application No. 98023-WO PCT/DK99/00501 Priority date (day/month/year) International filing date (day/month/year) 23 September 1998 (23.09.98) 23 September 1999 (23.09.99) **Applicant** HANSEN, Henrik, Christian et al

1.	The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:
	X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
	10 April 2000 (10.04.00)
	in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:
2.	The election X was
	was not
	made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Nestor Santesso

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

- 1 NOV. 1999

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU 6017-0:

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

To:

NILAUSEN, Kim Coloplast A/S Patent Dept. Holtedam 1 DK-3050 Humlebaek DANEMARK

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 27 October 1999 (27.10.99)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 98023-WO	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/DK99/00501	International filing date (day/month/year) 23 September 1999 (23.09.99)
International publication date (day/month/year) Not yet published	Priority date (day/month/year) 23 September 1998 (23.09.98)

- COLOPLAST A/S et al
- The applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt (except where the letters "NR" appear in the right-hand column) by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to the earlier application(s) indicated below. Unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, or by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- 2. This updates and replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents.
- 3. An asterisk(*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the international Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b). In such a case, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
- 4. The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which was not received by the International Bureau or which the applicant did not request the receiving Office to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau, as provided by Rule 17.1(a) or (b), respectively. In such a case, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

Priority date
Priority application No.
Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office
Or PCT receiving Office
Date of receipt of priority document

23 Sept 1998 (23.09.98)
PA 1998 01196
DK 13 Octo 1999 (13.10.99)

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Taïeb Akremi

MA

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35 Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

REQUEST

For receiving Office use only	-
International Application No.	_
International Filing Date	
Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicant's or agent's file reference (if desired) (12 characters maximum) 98023-WO TITLE OF INVENTION Box No. I Catheter set APPLICANT Box No. II Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) This person is also inventor. Telephone No. Coloplast A/S +45 49 11 11 11 Holtedam 1 Facsimile No. DK-3050 Humlebaek +45 49 11 15 55 Denmark Teleprinter No. 41.175 cinter State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that is, country) of residence: the States indicated in the Supplementa! Box the United States of America only all designated States except the United States of America This person is applicant all designated States for the purposes of: FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S) Box No. III Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) This person is: applicant only HANSEN, Henrik Christian. applicant and inventor Smedebakken 24 DK-2990 Nivaa inventor only (If this check-box Denmark is marked, do not fill in below.) State (that is, country) of residence: State (that is, country) of nationality: DK the States indicated in the Supplemental Box the United States all designated States except the United States of America This person is applicant all designated of America only States for the purposes of: Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet. AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf common representative agent of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.) Telephone No. Name and address: +45 49 11 11 11 Coloplast A/S Facsimile No. Holtedam 1 DK-3050 Humlebaek +45 49 11 18 49 Denmark Teleprinter No. Att.: Mr. Kim Nilausen, Patent Department 41.175 cinter Adress for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the

Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANTS AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTORS					
If none of the following sub-boxes is used, t		cluded in the request.			
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal en The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of resi	tity, full official designation. the address indicated in this dence is indicated below.)	This person is:			
TANGHOEJ, Allan Jelleroed Have 59		applicant only applicant and inventor			
DK-2980 Kokkedal Denmark		inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)			
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, country	of residence: DK			
This person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated the United States all designated the United States	d States except ates of America the	e United States America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box			
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HORSBOEL, Niels		applicant only			
Torvet 4D, st.		applicant and inventor			
DK-3400 Hilleroed Denmark		inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)			
State (that is, country) of nationality: DK	State (that is, countr	DK			
This person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated the United States	d States except thates of America	the States indicated in the Supplemental Box			
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·		applicant only			
		applicant and inventor			
		inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)			
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This person is applicant all designated for the purposes of:		the United States the States indicated in of America only the Supplemental Box			
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		applicant only			
		applicant and inventor			
		inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)			
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, cour	ntry) of residence:			
This person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated all design the Unite	nated States except d States of America	the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box			
Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicat	ed on another continuation	sheet.			

Box N	Rox No.V. DESIGNATION OF STATES							
The fo	The following designations are Hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) (mark the applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked):							
Region	al Pa	itent			·			
X	AP ARIPO Patent: GHGhana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SL Sierra Leone, SZ Swaziland, UG Uganda. ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT							
X		Eurasian Patent: AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT						
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Precautionary Designation Statement: In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn bythe applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a notice specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)

		S	heet No. 4		
Box No. VI PRIORITY CI	LAIM		Further prior	rity claims are indicated	in the Supplemental Box.
Filing date Number Where earlier application is:					
of earlier application (day/month/year)	of earl	er application	national application: country	regional application:*	international application: receiving Office
item(1) (23.09.98)					
23 September 1998	PA 19	98 01196	DK		
item (2)					
item (3)					
The receiving Office is recoff the earlier application(spurposes of the present into the where the earlier application is	s) (only if ernationa	the earlier appli l application is ti	ication was filed with the he receiving Office) identif	Office which for the lied above as item(s): (1	
* Where the earlier application is Convention for the Protection of I		•		iled (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)). See	Supplemental Box.
Box No. VII INTERNATIO					
Choice of International Search (if two or more International Sea competent to carry out the international Authority chosen; the two-letter	arching Au ational sea	thoritiès are sea rch, indicate		or requested from the Inter Number	e to that search (if an earlier rnational Searching Authority): Country (or regional Office)
ISA / SE		4	November 1998	DK98/00139	DK
Box No. VIII CHECK LIST	r; LANG	UAGE OF FIL	ING		
This international application of the following number of sheet		This internation	nal application is accompa	nied by the item(s) mark	red below:
request :	4				
description (excluding sequence listing part) :	10		signed power of attorney general power of attorney;	reference number, if an	ıy:
claims :	2	4. 🔲 statemer	nt explaining lack of signat	ture	
abstract : 1 5. priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s):					
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sequence listing part of description :		7. 🔲 separate	indications concerning de	posited microorganism o	or other biological material
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Total number of sheets:	21	L	pecify): Copy of ITS Report	t No. DK98/00139	
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Next to each signature, indicate the re	name of the p	person signing and the	he capacity in which the person	signs (if such capacity is not o	bvious from reading the request).
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TANGHOEJ, Allan	7		HORSBOE		
Date of actual receipt of the international application:	e purporte		receiving Office use only		2. Drawings:
Corrected date of actual re timely received papers or of the purported international	drawings o	completing			received:
4. Date of timely receipt of the corrections under PCT Ar	ticle 11(2)	:			not received:
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Form PCT/RO/101 (last sheet) (July 1998; ; reprint July 1999)

See Notes to the request form



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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's	or age	nt's file reference	T		ication of Transmittal of International
J.			FOR FURTHER AC	TION Prelimina	ry Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
Internationa	l appli	cation No.	International filing date (da	ay/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/DK99/00501 23/09/1999 23/09/1998					
Internationa A61M25/		nt Classification (IPC) or na	ational classification and IPC		
Applicant					
COLOPL	AST	A/S et al.			
			nination report has been paccording to Article 36.	orepared by this In	nternational Preliminary Examining Authority
2. This F	REPO	RT consists of a total o	f 6 sheets, including this	cover sheet.	
b (s	een a see R	mended and are the ba	asis for this report and/or to the second se	sheets containing	ion, claims and/or drawings which have rectifications made before this Authority the PCT).
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	⊠ □	Basis of the report			
111		•	oninion with regard to no	volty inventive etc	ep and industrial applicability
IV		Lack of unity of invent	-	verty, inventive ste	sp and industrial applicability
V	Ø	Reasoned statement			nventive step or industrial applicability;
VI		Certain documents ci	·		
VII	\boxtimes	Certain defects in the	international application		·
VIII	\boxtimes	Certain observations	on the international applic	ation	
Date of sub	omissi	on of the demand		Date of completion	of this report
10/04/20	00		•	07.12.2000	
	exam	g address of the internation ining authority:	na!	Authorized officer	STORE MINIS
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/DK99/00501

I.	Basis	of the	report
		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

1.	resp the	This report has been drawn on the basis of (substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).): Description, pages:							
	1-10)	as originally filed						
	Clai	ms, No.:							
	7-9		as originally filed						
	1-6		with telefax of	24/11/2000					
	Dra	wings, sheets:							
	1/4-	4/4	as originally filed						
2.	With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.								
	The	se elements were	available or furnished t	o this Authority in the following language: , which is:					
		the language of a	translation furnished for	or the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).					
		the language of p	ublication of the interna	itional application (under Rule 48.3(b)).					
		the language of a 55.2 and/or 55.3).		or the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule					
3.	With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:								
		contained in the in	nternational application	in written form.					
		filed together with	the international appli	cation in computer readable form.					
		furnished subseq	uently to this Authority	in written form.					
		furnished subseq	uently to this Authority	in computer readable form.					
			at the subsequently fur application as filed has	nished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in been furnished.					
		The statement that listing has been for		ded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence					
4.	The	amendments hav	e resulted in the cance	llation of:					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/DK99/00501

		the description,	pages:
		the claims,	Nos.:
		the drawings,	sheets:
5.			established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been ond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):
		(Any replacement sh report.)	eet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this
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- 6. Additional observations, if necessary:
- V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- 1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 2-4, 6, 9

No: Claims 1, 5, 7, 8

Inventive step (IS) Yes: Claims

No: Claims 1-9

Industrial applicability (IA) Yes: Claims 1-9

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted: see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made: see separate sheet

Secti n V

1 Reference is made to the following documents (D) cited in the International Search Report:

D1: WO 97 / 26937 (ISRAELSSON ANETTE ET AL) 31July 1997

D2: WO 98 / 11932 (KAYEROD HELLE ET AL) 26 March 1998

D3: GB-A-2 284 764 (MCLEOD PATRICK) 21 June 1995

D4: US-A-5 147 341 (STARKE RICHARD ET AL) 15 September 1992

D5: US-A-2 856 932 (GRIFFITTS JAMES) 21 October 1958

- 2 Novelty (Article 33(2) PCT)
- The present International Application does not meet the requirements of Article 2.1 33(2) PCT because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new:

Document D5 discloses a catheter set (col. 3, II. 16 to col. 4, I. 47, figs. 1-5) comprising a catheter (2) and a package (10), wherein an elongated part of the package (neck 12; cf. also VIII, 1 below) forms a tube (fig. 2) for accommodation of the catheter, the catheter comprising a proximal part (portion of body 14 that in use extends from neck 12, fig. 4), a sealing part (an intermediate portion of body 14 in use located at a proximal portion of neck 12) for providing a seal between the catheter and the elongated part of the package during use (col. 3, II. 35-37) and a flexible tubular distal part (remaining distal portion of body 14 and rearward end 8; col. 1, II. 33-35; cf. VIII, 2) separated by the sealing part from the proximal part (fig. 4), the flexible distal part having an inner diameter at least as large as the inner diameter of the proximal part (col. 2, I. 38) and being long enough to occupy said elongated part of the package (fig. 4), and, therefore, all features of claim 1.

- 2.2 D3 and D4 also make known a catheter set according to claim 1 (D3: abstract, claim 1, fig. 2/3, part 5 extending into the package; D4: col. 3, II. 5-7, fig. 10, part 22 extending into a narrow part of the package; cf. VIII, 2 below).
- 2.3 Dependent claims 5, 7, 8, do not contain any features which, in combination with

EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty, since and D5 disclose further:

- a tubular distal part being made from an extrudable, moldable material as recited in claim 5 (col. 3, I. 16), and
- a package having an elongated narrow part and being provided with a sealing device on the exterior side of the package according to claims 7 and 8 (fig. 4, part 12, cf. VIII, 1; fig. 8).
- Inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) 3

The remaining dependent claims do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step, since D1 discloses

a set comprising a catheter with a hydrophilic coating (p. 10, l. 4) and wetting fluid integrated into the package as defined in claims 2 and 3 (p. 10, II. 15-19),

and in that

- a tubular distal part having an inner diameter larger than that of the proximal part (claim 4) and being transversely corrugated (claim 6),
- a sealing device comprising an adhesive sheet (claim 9), are slight constructional changes which come within the scope of the customary practice followed by persons skilled in the art, especially as the advantages thus achieved can readily be foreseen (cf. p. 6, II. 1, 2, of present application and D5, col. 1, II. 48-52, fig. 8).

Section VII

All features of the claims should have been provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).

Section VIII

The present international application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT.

1 The "elongated part of the package" as defined in claim 1 includes elongated

International application No. PCT/DK99/00501

tubular portions of any length at the proximal end of the package including the seal between the catheter and said elongated part. Moreover, there appears to be some confusion in the application about the terms used for said part and, consequently, the length of the flexible tubular distal portion / section (cf. claims 1, 7, and page 7, II. 20-24, p. 8, II. 20-26).

- 2 The term "flexible tubular section" used in claim 1 is interpreted to extend in one respect at least to conical plastic syringe connectors at the distal end of catheters, since any solid (plastic) material is flexible to some extent. In view of the description (p. 8, II. 18-29), it appears that on the other hand said tubular section should be at least stiffer than the package to improve the protection against kinking or squeezing thereof.
- The function of the sealing device specified in claim 8 should have been clarified 3 (cf. p. 6, II. 18, 19, of the description) to avoid confusion with the sealing part as defined in claim 1.
- The statements in the description "inventive shape of the catheter ..." (pp. 2, 4) 4 and "sealing system according to the invention .. " (p. 3), the omission of the sealing function of the sealing part in the embodiment on page 3, II. 14-22 do not correspond to the scope of claim 1. This inconsistency between the claims and the description leads to doubt concerning the matter for which protection is sought, thereby rendering the claims unclear.

CLAIMS

- 1. A catheter set comprising a catheter and a package for storing of the catheter before use and for collecting or discharging urine wherein an elongal ed part of the package forms a tube for accommodation of the catheter, the call heter comprises a proximal part to be inserted into the urethra and a sealing part for providing a seal between the catheter and the elongated part of the package during use, CHARACTERISED IN that the catheter further comprises a distail part in the form of a flexible tubular section (4) having an inner diameter at least as large as the inner diameter of the proximal part of the catheter wherein the sealing part is separating the proximal part of the catheter and the tubular distail part, and wherein the length of the flexible tubular distail part (4) is at least long enough to occupy the elongated part of the package.
 - 2. A catheter set according to claim 1, CHARACTERISED IN that the proximal part of the catheter has a hydrophilic coating.
- 15 3. A catheter set according to claim 1 or 2, CHARACTERISED IN that the set comprises a wetting fluid integrated into the package.
 - 4. A catheter set according to any of claims 1 3, CHARACTERISE) IN that the tubular distal part of the catheter has an inner diameter larger than the inner diameter of the proximal part of the catheter.
- 20 5. A catheter set according to any of claims 1 4, CHARACTERISE() IN that the tubular part is made from an extrudable, mouldable material such as a polyoletin such as polyethylene (PE) or polypropylene (PP) or a copolymer of polyethylene such as ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or polyvinylldene chloride.
- 25 6. A catheter set according any of claims 1 5. CHARACTERISED IV that the tubular distal part of the catheter is transversely corrugated.



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7: A61M 25/01

A1

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 00/16843

(43) International Publication Date:

30 March 2000 (30.03.00)

(21) International Application Number:

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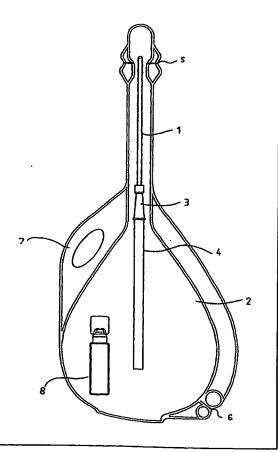
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Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: CATHETER SET

(57) Abstract

A catheter set comprising a catheter and a package for storing of the catheter before use and for collecting or discharging urine, wherein an alongated part of the package forms a tube and wherein the catheter has a proximal part to be inserted into the urethra, a distal part in the form of a tubular section having an inner diameter at least as large as the inner diameter of the part of the proximal part of the catheter and a sealing part separating the proximal part of the catheter and the tubular distal part. The inventive shape of the catheter combined with the shape of the package prevents a blocking of the free flow of urine from the urethra into the package.



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TITLE

Catheter set.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a catheter set comprising a catheter and a package for both storing of the catheter before use and for collecting or discharging urine.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Urinary catheter sets comprising a catheter having a hydrophilic coating, a wetting receptacle and a wetting fluid are disclosed in WO publication No.

98/11932 (Coloplast A/S) and in WO publication no. 97/26937 (Astra Aktiebolag).

Both publications describe catheter sets comprising both a catheter and a package, and in both publications an elongated part of the package forms a tube and is used for leading urine either to the inside of the package for later disposal or to an exterior container e.g. a toilet bowl for immediate disposal.

- 15 The use of such catheter sets is described by referring to figure 1 of WO 97/26937. First the proximal portion of the pocket 2 is torn off and the elongate shaft 18 of the catheter 3 is manoeuvred through the opening in the proximal end of the pocket 2 and into the urethra of the patient until a flared distal portion 16 forms a mechanical seal connection with the opening. Urine in the bladder of the patient is transported through the lumen of the catheter 3 into the urine collection chamber 12. After emptying the bladder the catheter 3 is manoeuvred back inside the bag 1 and the open end of the pocket 2 closed off for example by tying a knot with the material defining the pocket 2 or clamping the pocket with a clamp.
- A disadvantage with these catheter sets is that the mechanical seal connection between the flared distal portion of the catheter and the proximal part of the package does not always work properly and the result is that urine flows backward and out of the package, especially due to restriction of the flow from



the catheter into the receptacle due to folding, twisting or kinking of the elongate part of the device leading from the catheter to the receptacle..

GB 2031735 discloses a catheter set comprising a catheter within a package for collecting urine. So does GB 2284764, GB 2033231 and US 5147341. The rearward end of these catheters are either flared outwardly or provided with an arresting member to keep the catheter from leaving the package unintendedly. Non of these references provides an elongated part of the package to serve as a wetting receptacle for wetting the catheter.

US 2856932 discloses a catheter set comprising a catheter and a package

10 having an elongated part covering part of the catheter to assist insertion of the
catheter in a non-contaminating manner. At the rearward end of the catheter it is
flared outwardly to keep the catheter in place in relation to the package during
use. This shape of entrance into the package provides the same disadvantages
and risks of flow restriction as mentioned above due to possible occurrence of

15 twisting or kinking at the link between the elongated and the broader part of the
package. Furthermore a considerable length of the catheter is "inactivated" by
not being able to leave the elongated neck and such extra length would have to
be added to the catheter in addition to the necessary "active length" causing
considerable extra costs. For short catheters this extra length constitutes a

20 considerable part of the total length of the catheter.

The object of the invention is to solve this problem and provide a catheter set preventing the risk of spilling urine over cloth or surroundings when performing intermitting catherisation, especially when performed by the patient him- /herself, and at the same time to provide a catheter set which is simple and inexpensive to produce. It has surprisingly been found that the above drawbacks may be overcome using a catheter set according to the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a catheter set comprising a catheter and a package for both storing of the catheter before use and for collecting or discharging urine. The inventive shape of the catheter combined with the shape



of the package prevents blocking of the free flow of urine from the urethra into the package during use by securing the relatively soft and pliable package from kinking or squeezing.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- 5 The invention will be explained more in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings showing embodiments of the invention and in
 - Fig. 1 shows an embodiment of a catheter set according to the invention,
 - Fig. 2 shows the embodiment of Fig. 1 ready for use,
 - Fig. 3 shows another embodiment of a catheter set according to the invention,
- 10 Fig. 4 shows a sealing system according to the invention in an enlarged scale, and
 - Fig. 5 shows the embodiment of Fig. 3 in a sealed state.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

- The present invention relates to a catheter set comprising a catheter and a

 package for storing of the catheter before use and for collecting or discharging
 urine, wherein an elongated part of the package forms a tube for accommodating
 of the catheter. The catheter comprises a proximal part to be inserted into the
 urethra and a distal part in the form of a tubular section having an inner diameter
 at least as large as the inner diameter of the part of the proximal part of the
- 20 catheter, and a sealing part separating the proximal part of the catheter and the tubular distal part. The length of the tubular distal part is at least long enough to occupy the elongated part of the package.
 - The sealing part may e.g. be a part of the catheter having an increased diameter. Such a sealing part will also function as a stop preventing the catheter from
- 25 falling out of the package and, at the same time function as a seal during use preventing spilling of urine during catherisation.

The proximal part of the catheter will usually have an essentially uniform thickness of material as will the distal part.



It is very practical when the sealing part is separating the proximal part of the catheter and the tubular distal part as this provides safety against trying to insert the tubular part into the urethra and also ensures that the tubular part remains in the package for ensuring the free flow of urine into the package.

5 When in use, the distal tubular part of the catheter of the invention reaches into the upper part of the package and keeps the front and rear parts thereof apart and thus prevents a blocking of the free flow of urine from the urethra into the package. Thus the length of the tubular distal part of the catheter is at least as long as the length of the elongated part of the package. In the absence of the 10 tubular part, urine flowing through the catheter may meet an obstacle if for example the package is folded or squeezed and thus, the urine will fill up the upper part of the package and establish a back pressure on the sealing between the catheter and the package. When a tubular part of the catheter is inside the package as an extension of the catheter it thus prevents the flow of urine from 15 being disturbed in the upper part of the relatively soft package, and the flow of urine will be directed downwards until the package is full. The inner diameter of the tubular part of the catheter must be of at least of the same dimension as the proximal part of the in order not to hamper the free flow of urine from the bladder through the catheter and into the package. Thus the inventive shape of the 20 catheter in combination with the shape of the package prevents a blocking of the free flow of urine form urethra into the package.

The tubular part of the catheter may be a prolonged part of the catheter itself or a separate tubular piece which is connected to the catheter.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention the proximal part of the catheter has
a hydrophilic coating. A hydrophilic coating may be any hydrophilic coating
known per se for use for hydrophilic coated catheters and the coating may be
applied using any method known per se for applying a hydrophilic coating to a
catheter.

The catheter set according to the invention preferably comprises a wetting fluid integrated into the package in order to enable activation of a hydrophilic coating



irrespectively of the access to pure water. The wetting fluid may be sterilised water or saline.

The elongated shape of part of the package is especially useful when the catheter has a hydrophilic coating of the type needing activation by addition of wetting fluid. When the elongated part of the package accommodates the catheter - at least during the wetting process, but preferably already when package is produced and packed ready for sale - the amount of wetting fluid needed to ensure proper wetting is drastically reduced compared to the amount needed if wetting was to take place in the wider part of a package.

10 It is understood that the location of the catheter in the elongated part can take place already when the package is produced. But also the package can be produced with the catheter situated inside the broader part of the package in which situation the catheter is introduced into the elongated part of the package at any time prior to use to let the elongated part of the package accommodate
15 the catheter.

In one embodiment of the invention the tubular distal part of the catheter has an inner diameter larger than the inner diameter of the proximal part of the catheter. Thus, no extra resistance against the flow will occur and, as the outer diameter thereof is consequently also greater, the transition between the two parts of the catheter may function as a stop and sealing.

The tubular part of a catheter is preferably made from an extrudable, mouldable material such as a polyolefin such as polyethylene (PE) or polypropylene (PP) or a copolymer of polyethylene such as ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or polyvinylidene chloride or a polyurethane (PU) or a silicone. It is envisaged that the proximal and distal tubular part of the catheter and the sealing part may be produced as an integrated unit from the same material by a combination of injection moulding, extrusion and/or blowing.

It is preferred when the tubular distal part of the catheter is transversely corru-30 gated as this adds to the security against kinking. A suitable flexible and



transversely corrugated tube is known per se for preventing blocking by bending of the tube leading to urine collection bags.

In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the catheter set of the invention the package includes an elongated narrow part designed for accommodating the catheter at least during wetting of the catheter and for the exit of the catheter during use.

In this embodiment the tubular part of the catheter may e.g. be in the form of a telescopically extendible tube having a maximum diameter grater than the proximal part of the catheter. Alternatively the tubular part may be in the form of an extendible corrugated tubing resembling a corrugated straw which may be folded, compressed or stretched like an accordion. This embodiment can advantegeously be used when the urine is led directly to an exterior container e.g. a toilet bowl.

In accordance with another preferred embodiment the package also includes a broader container part for collecting the urine.

In accordance with yet another preferred embodiment of the invention the package is provided with one or more sealing devices on the exterior side of the package designed for holding and sealing the elongated end of the package after use. When using the package for collecting urine, it is possible to tie a knot on the elongated part after pushing the catheter into the package but this still leaves a small amount of urine in the outer part of the package which may be spilled onto the clothes which will be embarrassing for the user.

The sealing device is preferably in the form of an adhesive sheet adhered to the package. The sheet may typically comprise a sheet of a relatively soft and pliable material having an adhesive on the surface facing the outer side of the package and wherein a part of this surface is covered with a release liner which is adhered to the outer surface of the package. Thus, the sheet functions as a part of the surface of the package when not in use, and when used, the sheet is released from the release liner, which is then removed, ant the top of the bag is



preferably placed at the adhesive area and the sheet is placed at the adhesive area holding and sealing the end of the bag.

The sealing device of this embodiment securely closes and seals the opening of the package and furthermore, it enables a sealing by bending the top of the package and securing and sealing the same below a flap of an adhesive sheet adhered to the package the sealing device without having to push the catheter into the package which facilitates the sealing and provides a better security against spilling of urine.

The sheet may be of any suitable material e.g. the ones mentioned above. The
adhesive may be any suitable adhesive being compatible with the package
material and the sheet material. It is preferred when the adhesive exhibit some
moisture absorbing capability in order to ensure a secure sealing even if some
drops of urine are spilled when sealing the top of the package after use. An
moisture absorbing adhesive may be any such adhesive known per se for wound
or ostomy purposes, e.g. containing hydrocolloids.

A release liner may for instance be siliconized paper.

The package may be made from a water impervious layer or film of any suitable material known per se for use in the preparation of urine collection bags.

The length of the tubular part may vary according to the specific application. Of course, it should not be so long that it cannot be comprised in the bag. Even at small lengths of the tubular part an effect is obtained. In a preferred embodiment the tubular part has a length at least corresponding to the narrow upper part of the package.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

25 Reference is made to Fig. 1. The embodiment of the catheter set of the invention shown in Fig.1 comprises a catheter 1, a package 2 for collection of urine, a sealing part 3 and a flexible tubular part 4 connected to the catheter 1. The top of the package is easily torn off at 5 being a weak point for breaking the package. Furthermore, the package comprises another weak point 6 designed for opening



the package at the distal end, if desired, during use, if the package is to function as guide to e.g. a toilet bowl or after use if it is desired to empty the bag immediately. The package is shown with an ear 7 for an easy handling of the package during and after use. Furthermore, a container 8 is shown comprising a wetting fluid.

In Fig. 2 the embodiment of Fig. 1 is shown after opening the container and wetting the catheter and tearing off the top of the package and pushing the catheter until the stop engages with the bag ready for insertion. The insertion may, if desired, be performed concomitantly with the pushing out of the catheter.

Especially in the case where the catheter is of the hydrophilic coated type the catheter can be wetted to activate the hydrophilic coating prior to tearing off the top of the package at the weak point 5 and inserting the catheter into urethra. While accommodated in the elongated part of the package the catheter is thus surrounded by the wetting fluid of the container 8 after breaking off the tip of that container and holding the package so that the elongated part of the package points essentially downwards to ease the transportation of wetting fluid by gravity down into the elongated part of the package.

When the catheter is in use the urine flows in through the openings in the upper part - the proximal end - of the catheter 1 and enters the inside of the package 2 where it passes through the upper part which, in this embodiment, is in the form of a narrow portion as compared to the lower part of the package which is formed as a broader collection part. When the urine is passing the upper part of the package 2 it also passes the flexible tubular part 4 which is present inside this part of the package and secured to the catheter 1. The flexible tube 4 provides the package with a certain stiffness which prevents blocking of this part by kinking or squeezing of the relatively soft and pliable package 2. In the figure the flexible tube is shown as a smooth tube but it might as well have a corrugated surface. The most important features for the tube is that it has to be both bendable and in possession of a certain stiffness.



When the user has finished the use of the catheter he can either throw the used catheter and the filled or urine contaminated package away immediately or he can close the package and transport it to the nearest convenient waste container if there are not any present at the facility.

5 The user might experience a problem trying to close the package of the catheter set according to the invention as it is difficult to force the catheter down into the lower part of the package especially when the user has reduced motility of the hands, and when the catheter is still present in the narrow part of the package it is almost impossible for the user to tie a liquid-tight knot on the narrow part as recommended in the instructions for use of Convene EasiCath Set from Coloplast A/S.

Reference is made to fig. 3 showing an embodiment of the package of the invention having a sealing device at the exterior side of the package. In order to solve the above problem and render it easier for the user to transport a filled

15 package it is preferred to use a different kind of closing system as e.g. a system where the upper end of the catheter set package is closed with a piece of gummed tape or tied together by extra added parts.

A very effective sealing device comprises three pieces of film or paper and is illustrated in figures 3 - 5. Figure 4 shows how the three pieces are arranged in connection with each other: an upper piece 11, a middle piece 12 and a lower piece 13. The upper piece is non-adhesive on the outer surface and adhesive on the surface facing the package, one end of this piece is adhered to the package and the other end is adhered to the middle piece 12. The middle piece 12 is non-adhesive on both surfaces and both surfaces are made of a material which makes it possible to release it from adhesive surfaces without spoiling the adhesiveness. The middle piece 12 is preferably considerably larger than the one end of the upper piece 11 it is covering as this makes it easier to grab and remove the middle piece 12 from the package. The middle piece may e.g. be made from siliconised paper. The surface of the middle piece facing 12 away from the upper piece 11 is facing the lower piece 13. The lower piece 13 is



adhesive on both surfaces, one surface secure the lower piece 13 to the package and the other surface secure the lower piece 13 to the middle piece 12.

Before the closing device is used for securing and sealing the proximal end of the catheter set, the three pieces are placed on the front or the backside of the package, they are all three releasably glued together as each of them get contact with at least one adhesive surface. When the user need to close the package he pulls the middle piece 12 and the upper end of the upper piece 11 backwards, by this action the middle piece 12 is released from the lower piece 13 (only the movement of the upper piece 11 is indicated in the figure). After the user has remove the middle piece 12 from the upper piece 11, the user places the open end of the catheter set on the lower piece, this will secure the position of the open end, and then the user covers the open end of the package with the upper piece. The open end of the package is now secured between the upper and the lower piece.

15 Figure 5 shows a sectional view of a package with the sealing device in a closed position.



CLAIMS

- A catheter set comprising a catheter and a package for storing of the catheter before use and for collecting or discharging urine wherein an elongated part of the package forms a tube for accommodation of the catheter, the catheter
 comprises a proximal part to be inserted into the urethra and a sealing part for providing a seal between the catheter and the elongated part of the package during use, CHARACTERISED IN that the catheter further comprises a distal part in the form of a tubular section having an inner diameter at least as large as the inner diameter of the proximal part of the catheter wherein the sealing part is separating the proximal part of the catheter and the tubular distal part, and wherein the length of the tubular distal part is at least long enough to occupy the elongated part of the package.
 - 2. A catheter set according to claim 1, CHARACTERISED IN that the proximal part of the catheter has a hydrophilic coating.
- 15 3. A catheter set according to claim 1 or 2, CHARACTERISED IN that the set comprises a wetting fluid integrated into the package.
 - 4 . A catheter set according to any of claims 1 3, CHARACTERISED IN that the tubular distal part of the catheter has an inner diameter larger than the inner diameter of the proximal part of the catheter.
- 5 . A catheter set according to any of claims 1 4 , CHARACTERISED IN that the tubular part is made from an extrudable, mouldable material such as a polyolefin such as polyethylene (PE) or polypropylene (PP) or a copolymer of polyethylene such as ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or polyvinylidene chloride.
- 25 6 . A catheter set according any of claims 1 5 , CHARACTERISED IN that the tubular distal part of the catheter is transversely corrugated.



- 7. A catheter set according to any of claims 1 6, CHARACTERISED IN that the package has an elongated narrow part at the end where the catheter exits the package during use and preferably also a broader container part.
- 8 . A catheter set according to any of claims 1 7 , CHARACTERISED IN that
 5 the package is provided with one or more sealing devices on the exterior side of the package.
 - 9 . A catheter set according to claim 8 , CHARACTERISED IN that the sealing device comprises an adhesive sheet adhered to the package.



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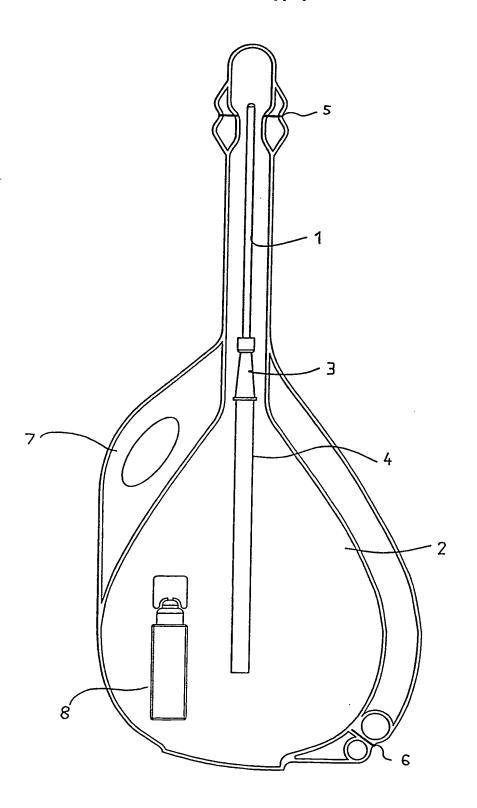


Fig. 1



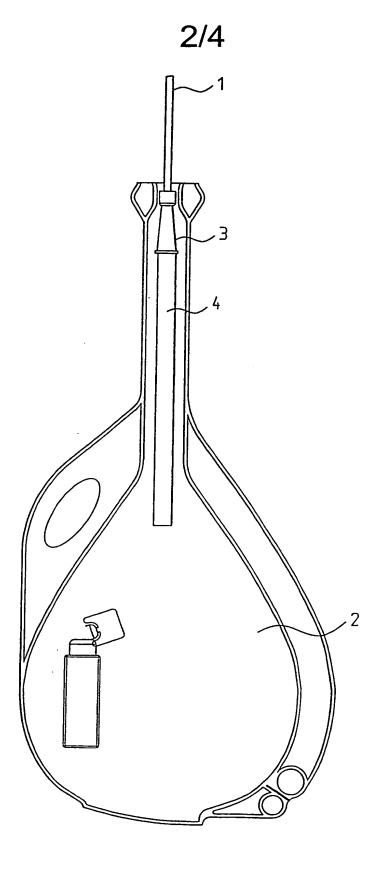


Fig. 2



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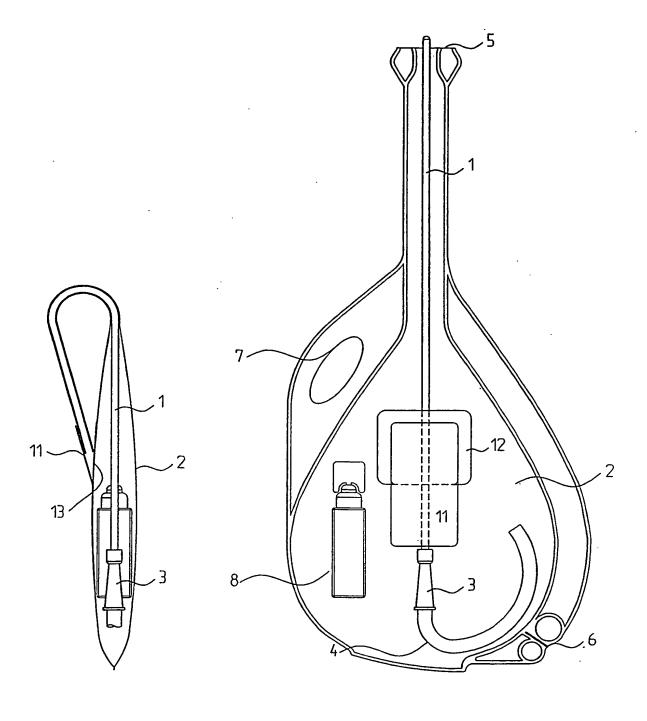
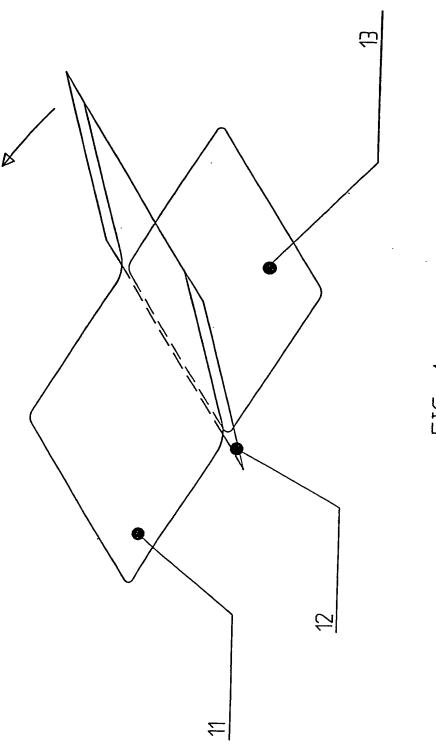


Fig. 5

Fig. 3

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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х	WO 9811932 A1 (COLOPLAST A/S), 26 March 1998 (26.03.98), page 14, line 18 - page 15, line 34; page 7, line 13 - line 19, figure 14	1-5,7
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